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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/684,445	10/15/2003	Kwang Jun Baik	2950-0274P	8843

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BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH
PO BOX 747
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747

EXAMINER

LAMB, CHRISTOPHER RAY

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2627

DATE MAILED: 06/26/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/684,445	BAIK, KWANG JUN	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Christopher R. Lamb	2627	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 October 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-3, 9, 11, 14-17, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ogawa et al. (US 2001/0037459).

Regarding claim 1:

Ogawa discloses a method for managing a password in an optical disc apparatus, comprising the steps of:

a) determining if a current optical disc has been reproduced previously by the optical disc apparatus (paragraph 75); and

b) requesting a user to enter a first password prescribed by the user if the determining step (a) determines that the current optical disc has been reproduced previously (paragraph 76).

Regarding claim 2:

The method of Ogawa further comprises:

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(c) comparing the entered first password with a password (paragraph 76) prestored in a first area of a memory (paragraph 60); and

(d) performing a requested disc operation on the current optical disc if the comparing step (c) result indicates that the entered first password matches the prestored password (paragraph 76).

Regarding claim 3:

Ogawa discloses that the determining step (a) includes:

determining if there exists disc identifier (ID) information stored in the first area of the memory, that corresponds to the current optical disc (paragraph 75); and

determining that the current optical disc has been reproduced previously by the optical disc apparatus if the disc ID information exists (inherent: if disk ID information exists, it must have been reproduced before).

Regarding claim 9:

In Ogawa the first area of the memory is a non-volatile storage area of the memory (paragraph 34).

Regarding claim 11:

In Ogawa the first password is a user password (the user enters it: paragraph 60).

Regarding claim 14:

Ogawa discloses a method for managing a password in an optical disc apparatus, comprising the steps of:

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a) determining if a current optical disc has been reproduced previously by the optical disc apparatus (paragraph 58); and

b) storing disc identifier (ID) information and a disc password for the current optical disc in a non-volatile storage area of a memory if the determining step (a) determines that the current optical disc has not been reproduced previously (paragraph 60).

Regarding claim 15:

The method of Ogawa further comprises:

(c) performing a requested disc operation on the current optical disc if the determining step (a) determines that the current optical disc has been reproduced previously (paragraph 78).

Regarding claim 16:

In the method of Ogawa, the performing step (c) is carried out immediately after the determining step (a) if the determining step (a) determines that the current optical disc has been reproduced previously (paragraph 75, 79).

Regarding claim 17:

In the method of Ogawa, the determining step (a) includes:

determining if there exists disc identifier (ID) information stored in the non-volatile storage area of the memory, that corresponds to the current optical disc (paragraph 75); and

determining that the current optical disc has been reproduced previously by the optical disc apparatus if the disc ID information exists (inherent: if the disk ID information exists, it has been reproduced previously).

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Regarding claim 20:

Ogawa discloses a device for managing a password in an optical disc apparatus (Fig. 3), comprising:

means for determining if a current optical disc has been reproduced previously by the optical disc apparatus (paragraphs 34-44); and
a non-volatile storage area of a memory for storing therein disc identifier (ID) information and a disc password for the current optical disc if the means determines that the current optical disc has not been reproduced previously (paragraphs 34-44).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 4-8, 10, 12, 13, 18, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ogawa et al. in view of Tanaka et al. (US 2002/0051627).

For these claims the following combination is used:

Ogawa discloses a method for managing a password in an optical disc apparatus as noted above. Ogawa discloses only one password, for parental control.

Tanaka discloses a password for limiting access to the disc. Tanaka discloses that this password only has to be entered once, and is thereafter stored (paragraph 76: note that the password is used to extend the valid term in which the disc can be used, but it is obvious given Tanaka that a password might be required to use the disc at all: that is, a starting valid term of zero time, requiring the password to use the disc).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to include in the method of Ogawa the steps to manage the second password taught by Tanaka.

The motivation would have been to allow Ogawa's apparatus to use the access-limited discs disclosed by Tanaka, improving functionality.

Regarding claim 4:

The method of Ogawa in view of Tanaka includes the steps of:

e) requesting the user to enter a unique second password assigned to the current optical disc if the determining step (a) determines that the current optical disc has not been reproduced previously (taught by Tanaka); and

(f) comparing the entered second password with a password stored in a second area of a memory (taught by Tanaka).

Regarding claim 5:

The method of Ogawa in view of Tanaka inherently further comprises:

(g) requesting the user to enter the first password prescribed by the user if the comparing step (f) result indicates that the entered second password matches the stored password (the first password is entered as part of the

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parental control process of Ogawa, discussed above; it is logical to enter it only if the second password matches, because no information can be accessed unless the second password matches); and

(h) storing, in a first area of the memory, the entered first password along with the second password and disc ID information for the current optical disc (Ogawa already included a memory for storing the first password and disc ID information, and Tanaka teaches storing the second password).

Regarding claim 6:

The method of Ogawa in view of Tanaka inherently further comprises:

i) performing a requested disc operation on the current optical disc after the storing step (already part of Ogawa: after the registration process, the disc can be played).

Regarding claim 7:

In the method of Ogawa in view of Tanaka one single first password is stored in the first area of the memory in association with multiple optical discs (Ogawa paragraph 60: the general parental password can be used for multiple discs).

Regarding claim 8:

In the method of Ogawa in view of Tanaka a plurality of first passwords are associated respectively with a plurality of different optical discs and stored in the first area of the memory (Ogawa paragraph 60: the user can put in a new password for each disc).

Regarding claim 10:

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In Ogawa in view of Tanaka the second area of the memory is a temporary storage area of the memory (it is inherent to the teachings of Tanaka that that the password must be read from the disc to compare with the entered password; thus it must be stored in a temporary memory when it is read out.).

Regarding claim 12:

In Ogawa in view of Tanaka the second password is a disc password unique to the current optical disc (inherent).

Regarding claim 13:

In Examiner takes Official Notice that it is well known in the art to distribute a password on a jacket of the optical disc or over an internet website.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Ogawa in view of Tanaka to include wherein the password is indicated on a jacket of the current optical disc or is provided over an Internet website, because the Examiner takes Official Notice it is well known in the art (the motivation would have been to provide the password conveniently to the user).

Regarding claims 18-19:

All limitations positively recited have already been discussed with regards to earlier claims; no further elaboration is necessary.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Shirai et al. (US 6,643,085), among others, discloses being able to change a unique disc password.


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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher R. Lamb whose telephone number is (572) 272-5264. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Korzuch can be reached on (571) 272-7589. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

CRL 6/21/06



THANG V. TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER